

STATE OF MICHIGAN TERRI LYNN LAND, SECRETARY OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Lansing

MEMORANDUM

Date: January 3, 2007 **To:** County Clerks

From: Michigan Department of State, Bureau of Elections

Subject: SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE FILING REQUIREMENTS

The enclosed informational memo on the disclosure requirements provided under Michigan's Campaign Finance Act has been specially prepared for distribution to school board candidates. We encourage you to forward the memo to any school board candidates who are required to file their campaign finance disclosure documents with your office. Please feel free to photocopy the memo as needed.

Filing Exemptions

Michigan's Campaign Finance Act provides a filing exemption for certain school board candidates. Specifically, the Act provides that a candidate who seeks a school board position in a school district with a pupil enrollment count of 2,400 or less is not required to file a Statement of Organization or Campaign Statements under the Act if he or she does not spend or receive in excess of \$1,000.00 for the election. Note that candidates who are exempt from the Act's filing requirements are still required to keep records of their campaign expenses and provide an identifier on campaign materials. In addition, such candidates are prohibited from accepting corporate contributions or contributions from a labor organization like any other candidates seeking public office in Michigan.

A school district's pupil enrollment count is viewed as the pupil count obtained at the most recent "pupil membership count day" in the district.

It merits note that candidates who seek a board position on an Intermediate School Board that fills it board positions at popular elections are subject to the filing requirements of the Campaign Finance Act; candidates who seek a board position on an Intermediate School Board that fills its board positions through the meeting process (MCL 380.614) are exempt from the filing requirements of the Campaign Finance Act.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

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